# UPDATE FROM DIRECTOR GREEN









Dear Region 2B Family,

September was another busy month, with contracts being negotiated, struggles with companies, organizing, our Get Out The Vote initiative, and some positive energy with our Region 2B chaplains and retirees.

I'll start this month with the Region 2B Retired Workers' Council meeting, which was held at Sawmill Creek in Huron, Ohio. Special thanks to Ted Fleming, chairman of the Region 2B Retirees Council, and the entire board. Region 2B retiree leadership comes together twice a year—once in the spring, in Indiana, and once in the fall in Ohio.

I was honored to attend and give the retiree leadership an update on what has been happening throughout the region. Listening to stories from our retirees is always a great pleasure for me. Helping our retirees with issues and concerns they may have has been a top priority while serving in this role. That is why I make it a precedent to attend as many retiree chapter meetings as possible.

While I can't attend every meeting each month, I do try to attend as many as possible. If you are retired and your chapter would like me to come out and give an update at any time, please don't hesitate to reach out. I value and respect every retiree, and I also hope to become one someday.

Thank you for your years of dedication and service—not only for what you have done, but for what you continue to do to build a stronger UAW for all of us.

**DUE TO TECHNICAL PHONE ISSUES, WE HAVE A NEW TEMPORARY VOICEMAIL NUMBER 567-440-7074**
















**Region 2B Chaplaincy Conference**

This past weekend, the Region 2B Chaplaincy Conference was held at our Regional Headquarters under the theme, "Faith Refined Meets the Front Lines."

A special thank-you to our Region 2B Chaplaincy Coordinator, David Watson, his wife, Tracy Watson, and their entire family, along with the 2B Executive Chaplaincy Board, for all their hard work and hospitality in making this conference possible.

Friday evening began with a powerful night of worship and words from Dr. Michael Carr. On Saturday, Chaplains Ken Thomas, William Price, Jerry Carson, Randall Willis, and Andre Mitchell shared their experiences and spoke about faith in the workplace and why it remains so important.

The conference concluded Sunday with Chaplain Henry Carter bringing everyone together for a meaningful close to a powerful weekend.

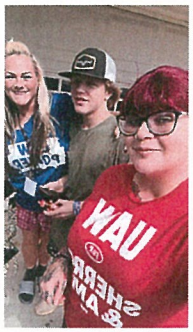
Bringing our members together in love, faith, and fellowship helps make us stronger. God knows we need one another, and being part of a union means having a family to lean on, support one another, and stand together.

Thank you to all of our chaplains for the important work you do for our members and our communities.











**Building Working-Class Power**

Another way we help our communities is by electing worker-friendly, union-supporting politicians. Our CAP councils do a lot of work researching candidates and making endorsements. You can find a list of endorsed candidates by state through UAW Power and Political Endorsements (uawpower.org).

In order to have your voice heard, you must vote. This November, we have a chance to elect more labor-friendly candidates. This can help strengthen our union by supporting better collective bargaining agreements, enabling us to do more organizing, and helping us provide better resources for our members.

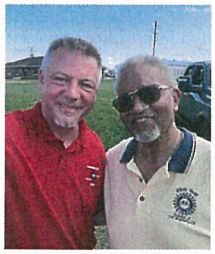
To be clear, this is not about political parties. It is about individuals who are willing to stand up for workers' rights.

This election cycle, Region 2B has revamped our Get Out The Vote program. Instead of sending resources to other organizations, we are running our own program, with UAW members knocking on doors and talking with other UAW members.

This is a more powerful way to communicate, and it also helps build solidarity among our members. We need to be trade unionists first and focus on working-class issues.

The cost of goods and services is out of control, and I know for a fact that CEOs and billionaires are not going to fix this. They have been profiting off the working class for decades. We need working people with working-class ideals—people who understand our issues and are prepared to address them.

Our Region 2B staff and organizers have been doing an amazing job and working hard to help build a stronger union for tomorrow. I want to personally thank them not only for their work, but also for the volunteer hours they spend building working-class power.












**Labor Day**

Some times we have to make sure we are loud and heard. Region 2B did that this year on Labor Day.

Labor Day celebrations were held all across Ohio and Indiana. I was personally only able to make four.

It started on Saturday, September 5, at Local 685, where the CBTU sponsored a Labor Day celebration. Later that day, I drove down to Indianapolis for Labor Fest. Sunday, I was able to make it to Lorain County for their Labor event.

I have to say, Lorain County puts on one heck of a show.

On Monday, September 7, Labor Day, I walked in a parade right here in Toledo, Ohio. No matter which event I attended, seeing workers from different labor unions coming together and recognizing the sacrifices that came before us was very powerful.

Never forget that people died—literally were murdered—for workers to have the right to use their voice in the workplace.

Companies don't spend millions of dollars trying to keep organized labor out because they want workers to use their collective voice. They know that when we come together, stand in solidarity, and remain united, we have tremendous power.

We must learn to use that power.

**Fighting For Our Members**

But even with our collective power, businesses and billionaires often have more rights and privileges.

As I've talked about First Brands in the past, we are still battling in court to protect the benefits our members should receive through their collective bargaining agreements. First Brands, LLC went bankrupt, and the circumstances have raised serious concerns about how the company was managed and financed. The James brothers, CEO and CFO, took out multiple private-equity loans involving single-entity automotive-parts supplier facilities. They walked away with the money, while the workers were left holding the bag.

The shops that were non-union were left out in the cold.

While we can't stop bankruptcies from happening, I am committed to fighting with every resource available through the court system to help protect our workers. That fight continues.

Another company recently disrespected our members by issuing a WARN notice on Friday, September 25th. The union was not notified prior to this, and I found out through news reporting. Our brothers and sisters at Local 211, Powers & Sons, were being officially notified this week, but some had to find out through the news that they were losing jobs. This is wrong on so many levels.

When the boss tells you how much they respect you and shows it with a pizza party, don't believe them. The only people we can truly rely on are ourselves and our union family.

We must come together and support one another through good times and bad. Being in a union doesn't make us better than anyone else. It makes us unified. But we all have an obligation to help build that unity, fellowship, and solidarity.

Matthew 7:3-4 reminds us:
"Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye?"



**Looking Ahead to October**

This coming month, our members will have the results of the International Executive Board elections. Some contests will result in runoffs, while others will be decided.

Whether your candidate wins or loses, we must put the election behind us and focus on working together. Our members will make their choices, and we must respect those choices.

We cannot fight with each other and hope to win the battles that lay ahead.

Also in October, the week of the 12th will be the BET Council meetings. The week of the 19th will be the Stellantis Council meetings. There are also various IPS Council meetings taking place on different days and in different locations.

Region 2B Women's Conference begins on October 10th. Region 2B Advisory Council Meetings will be held at the end of October on the 26th, 27th, and 28th.

Bringing our leadership together at council meetings and conferences' are an important part of building strength in our union and preparing for upcoming collective bargaining agreements.

Our Advisory Council meetings are about building power in the workplace, mobilizing our members, staying active in our communities, and working to support one another. That is what it's all about. God bless and as always,

In solidarity,

David Green
UAW Region 2B Director

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